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SKETCH OF THE
HISTORY
OF THE

T H O M P S O N F A M I L Y

Memorial to
JOHN LELAND THOMPSON

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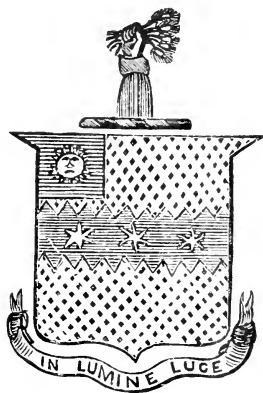
John Eeland Thompson.

Born December 1st, 1797.

Died March 27th, 1880.



The Thompson Family.



Or, on a fesse dancettee az. three estoiles ar. on a canton of the second, the sun in glory ppr. *Crest*, an arm erect, vested gu. cuff ar. holding in the hand ppr. five ears of wheat or. *Motto*—In lumine luce.

A SKETCH OF THE HISTORY
OF THE
Thompson Family.

From the time of their Settlement in this Country to the present time.



Anthony Thompson, with his wife, two children and two brothers, John and William, embarked at London on board the ship Hector and ship (name not known) in company with Governor Eaton, Rev. Mr. Davenport and others, of Coventry, England, and arrived at Boston June 26, 1637, according to Winthrop's Journal, though Cotton Mather says it was on the 23d of July in the same year. They were dissenters from the Church of England, and left home to enjoy quietly here the principles of their faith, as well as to avoid the constant persecutions, taxes and exactions which were so frequent during the reign of Charles I.

In the spring of 1638, Messrs Davenport and Eaton made diligent search for a desirable location for the settlement of their colony, and being, perhaps, the most energetic and wealthy party which up to that period had emigrated to these shores, several towns made them tempting offers to join them, but as no site appeared to hold out as many advantages as Quinnipiac, or New Haven, they finally concluded to make that place their permanent abode. Anthony Thompson signed the colonial constitution of June 4th, 1639. As the Thompson brothers had probably been more or less connected with agricultural pursuits at home, we find they soon secured lands here. John lived at East Haven, and died there December 11, 1674. It is asserted that the farm which he occupied is now in the possession of some of his descendants.

Anthony and William resided at New Haven during their lives, and died there.

Anthony died March 23, 1647, at which time he made a noncupative will, in presence of Rev. John Davenport and Robert Newman, who afterwards committed his instructions to writing, and appeared before the proper officer to prove it, May 27, 1650. He bequeathed the lands which were set off to him originally, and the house which he had erected thereon, to his son John; other lands since purchased, to An-

thony; a certain sum to Bridget (a daughter of his first wife), provided she married in accordance with the wishes of the deacons of the church; and the remainder to his second wife, Catherine, and to his three daughters by her, her share to continue during her widowhood. But as it appears she married Nicholas Camp, July 14, 1652, the property probably reverted to the family. Anthony, Jr., made his will while on a visit at Milford on the 26th, and died on the 29th of December, 1654, giving most of his property to his brother John. William, who was probably a bachelor, made his will October 6, 1682, and died the same year. He bequeathed all his property to his relations, particularly mentioning his nephew John.

John seems to have been a sea captain. He had three children mentioned on the records of the town, viz:—Mary, born September 9, 1667; Samuel, born May 12, 1669; Sarah, born January 16, 1671; but he probably had two or three previously, whose names they neglected to register. John died June 2, 1707, and an inventory of his estate is on record. His son Samuel was married November 14, 1695, to Rebecca Bishop, daughter of the Lieutenant-Governor. They lived at the Beaver Ponds, now called Westville, about two miles from New Haven. He was captain of the military company in New Haven. He must have been a healthy, athletic man, as his grandson

Hezekiah used to relate that he rode behind him on horseback from New Haven to Goshen, a distance of about 50 miles, when in his 82nd year, at which latter place he died.

His children were :

I. Samuel, born December 2, 1696.

II. James, born June 5, 1699.

III. Amos, born March 3, 1702.

IV. Gideon, born December 25, 1704

V. Rebecca, born February 23, 1708.

VI. Judah, born June 10, 1710—died August 5, 1712.

VII. Judah, October 5, 1713.

VIII. Enos, born August 18, 1717.

This family lived to an advanced age. Some of them settled in what is now the town of Stanford, in Dutchess County, near the line of North-East, New York, and others in Goshen, Conn. Smith Thompson, Judge of the Supreme Court of the United States, and subsequently Secretary of the Navy, descended from this (Stanford) branch of the family. Enos Thompson Throop, grandson of Enos Thompson, was Charge to Naples, and Governor of the State of New York. Hezekiah, Esq., son of James Thompson, was born in 1735. His father died in consequence of a fall from a cherry tree, in the year 1737. He being under the guardianship of his uncle, Enos

Thompson at the age of 14 years was bound out to a saddler's trade; but on arriving at mature age, commenced the study and practice of law in the town of Woodbury, and seems to have been a lawyer of some eminence. He built there a stately mansion, and died March, 1803. He had two sons, William and James. The first lived in Sullivan County, N. Y., was first judge of the County, and died December 9, 1847. James was an Episcopal clergyman, lived in the town of New Durham, Greene County, N. Y., and died August 4, 1844.

Mention should have been made of the family of Samuel before that of James, the father of Hezekiah.

Samuel settled on the East line of the town of Stanford, a little west of the place known as Federal Store. He or Ezra built the brick house now in the possession of Widow Phebe Thompson, in the year 1785. His son Caleb the house a little to the west (also a brick house) now owned by J. B. Carpenter, in the year 1783. Smith Thompson aforesaid was the son of Ezra.

Amos settled near the pond known by the name of Thompson's Pond, as near as can be ascertained, about the year 1746; Gideon in Goshen, Conn. But little is known about his descendants. Rebecca married a man in New Haven by the name of Austin. Her son, Deacon Austin, was a prominent man in that place.

Of Judah but little is known. He lived and died in New Haven.

Enos lived on the west side of the square on or near the place where Seth Cook now lives. His daughter was the mother of Enos T. Throop, before spoken of.

Amos was married to Sarah Allen in 1726.

Son Allen was born in the year 1727.

Daughter Rebecca “ “ “ 1729.

Son Amos “ “ “ 1731.

Son Ezra “ “ “ 1734.

Ezra Thompson married Rachel Smith.

Son Joseph.

“ Ezra, Jr., born Sept. 3, 1765, died April 3, 1829.

“ Smith.

“ Egbert.

“ Nathan.

Daughter Tamma.

“ Rachel.

“ Betsey.

“ Sally.

Ezra Thompson, Jr., was born Sept. 3, 1765.

Ezra Thompson, Jr. and Sallie Burton were married July 13, 1786.

Huldah, their daughter,	was born	July 27, 1787.
Polly,	“ “ “	Dec. 19, 1788.
Tamma,	“ “ “	Aug. 28, 1790.
Sally,	“ “ “	Aug. 22, 1792.
George Smith, their son,	“	Mar. 31, 1794.
Walter,	“ “ “	Mar. 4, 1796.
John Leland,	“ “ “	Dec. 1, 1797.
Rachel, their daughter,	“	Sept. 21, 1799.
Julia Ann,	“ “	Feb. 8, 1802.

John Leland Thompson and Mary P. Thompson were married at New London, Conn., Aug. 17, 1829.

John Isaac, their son, was born April 2, 1831.

William Augustus, “ “ Feb. 2, 1834.

Mary Elizabeth, their daughter, was born May 14, 1838.

George Smith, their son, was born Feb 14, 1840.

Robert Hallam, “ “ Aug. 16, 1845.

James Leland, “ “ Sept. 17, 1847.

Walter, “ “ Jan. 12, 1851.

Edward Ray, “ “ March 19, 1854.

MAY 1, 1880.

From the TROY MORNING WHIG of March 29, 1880.

John Leland Thompson.

THE death of John Leland Thompson, who for nearly sixty-three years has been identified with the growth and prosperity of this city, occurred on Saturday last, at 11.23 P. M., at his residence, No. 24 First Street. His ancestors were among the early colonists who came to these shores, the founder of the family in this country being Anthony Thompson, who was from Coventry, England, and who with his wife and two children, and his brothers, John and William, landed at Boston, June 26, 1637.

In the same ship—the Hector—in which they performed their journey, they had as part of their company, the Rev. John Davenport, who had been a famous minister in the city of London, and who became the first minister of New Haven, and so continued from 1638 to 1668; and several who had been of his congregation, among whom were Theophilus

Eaton and Edward Hopkins, who had been merchants in London, possessed of great estates and eminent for their abilities and integrity, both of whom were, afterwards, governors of Connecticut.

Anthony Thompson settled in New Haven, became one of the founders of that colony, and died there March 23, 1647. His grandson, Samuel Thompson, married Rebecca, the daughter of James Bishop, who for many years was lieutenant governor of Connecticut. Ezra Thompson, the great grandson of Samuel Thompson, was an inhabitant of Dutchess county, in this State, and represented that county in the convention of the State of New York, which met during the summer of 1788, at Poughkeepsie, for the purpose of considering the Constitution of the United States that had been adopted in a convention of the confederacy, held in the previous year. Ezra Thompson was born September 3, 1765, and married Sarah Burton, July 13, 1786. They had nine children, of whom John L. Thompson, the subject of this notice, was born at Amenia, in Dutchess county, on December 1, 1797. Ezra Thompson was a republican of the school of Jefferson, and was also a Baptist in religious profession. Being a personal friend of the Rev. John Leland, a Baptist clergyman of eminence at this period, and a strenuous advocate of civil and religious rights, he gave the name of this clergyman to his son.

Young Thompson passed the days of his boyhood, partly on the farm of his father and partly at school, until the year 1817, when he was brought by his father to Troy, and found employment as a clerk in the drug store of his brother-in-law, Dr. Samuel Gale, at No. 161 River Street. At this period, Dr. Gale was the postmaster of this city and the post office was kept at his store. It was at this point, three years later, that the historic fire of 1820 was arrested by the extraordinary exertions of a few gentlemen. The building was frequently on fire, but was only partially damaged. About 1822, Mr. Thompson was admitted as a partner by Dr. Gale, and the business was conducted under the firm name of Gale & Thompson until about 1826, when Mr. Gale sold his interest to Mr. Thompson, and for the next fifteen years the latter was the sole proprietor. In 1841, David Cowee became a partner, and the style of the firm was changed to John L. Thompson & Co. In 1855, by which time John I. Thompson and William A. Thompson, sons of John L. Thompson, had been admitted to the firm, its designation was changed to John L. Thompson, Sons & Co., and by this name it has since been known.

The business which Mr. Thompson entered upon as a young man, received from its inception his undivided attention. Under his guidance and direction it gradually developed, until the transactions, which at

the beginning required only a few rooms for their accomplishment, are now carried on in four large warehouses, and in various other lofts and buildings, which are occupied as wanted, and whose floor-room amounts to an area of an acre and a half. One of the principles by which he was guided, was the observance of the strictest integrity in all his dealings, and this rule of conduct he laid down as the guide for all who came within the sphere of his influence. For nearly sixty-three years he conducted business on the same spot, and at the time of his death was the oldest and wealthiest merchant in this city, and was at the head of a drug house, than which there are only two in the State whose transactions are larger.

He never held public office, but was interested in the welfare and growth of the city. He was prominently connected with the organization of the Troy and Greenbush Railroad Company in 1844, and in the construction of their road, and was a director of the company. He was one of the organizers of the Troy Union Railroad Company in 1851, was specially active and influential in procuring the title to the lands purchased in this city for the location of that road and for the site of the Union Depot, and was a director of the company. He became a director of the old Farmers' Bank of this city, in 1836, and continued as such until that institution was merged in the United

National Bank in 1865, and resigned his directorship in the latter organization only when it became apparent that he could not be longer usefully active in its management. He was for many years a trustee of the Troy Savings Bank; a director of the Albany and Vermont Railroad Company; a governor of the Marshall Infirmary, and held other positions of trust and beneficence.

When he first came to Troy, he became a member of the family of Dr. Gale, at 55 First street, and there resided until his marriage to Miss Mary P. Thompson, which occurred August 17, 1829. He subsequently, and until 1831, lived at 81 River street, at the end of which period he moved into house 128 First street, which he had been building, meantime, as a dwelling for himself and family. In the year 1848 he began the construction of his beautiful and spacious residence 24 First street, into which he moved in 1850, and where he has since dwelt. He was the father of eight children, all of whom, with his wife, between whom and himself there always existed the most tender and thoughtful affection, remain to respect an example and revere in memory a life which never failed to elicit from them the most reverent and filial devotion.

In his life and conduct Mr. Thompson exemplified, fully, his respect for the laws of health and his devo-

tion to the highest principles of morality and virtue. When the Washingtonian temperance movement first began to exert its influence, in the year 1840, he gave it his hearty and undivided support. He had been through all his previous life strictly temperate in his habits, but from that time forward he resolved to abstain wholly from spirituous, vinous and malt liquors, declaring that no one should ever refer to him as an evil example. He was equally opposed to the use of tobacco in any form. And thus it happened, that having been gifted with a good constitution, he rarely ever had suffered from illness until within the last two years. On Saturday, July 20, 1878, he had a slight attack of apoplexy, which rendered him measurably apprehensive. On the following Monday, he attended the funeral of George M. Tibbits, and while seated in St. John's Church, during the service on that occasion, was again partially prostrated by the same disorder and was assisted to his home, which from that time forward he never left, unless when he was taken out for a drive.

During his illness, his articulation, for some of the time, was indistinct, and he often seemed to be laboring to express thoughts which his tongue refused to frame into words. On one of these occasions, one of his sons, after much patient study, made out this expression: "You will never make a success in life

without sterling integrity." The son repeated the words as he had understood his father to express them, and Mr. Thompson, by his assenting looks and gestures, confirmed the interpretation. In this one statement is to be found the keynote of his life. He was a man of strong will and inflexible purpose and determination. In his business relations he strove to do exactly as he had agreed to do, and he required the same conduct from others.

After he came to Troy, he attended the ministrations of Dr. Coe until the death of that respected clergyman. Subsequent to his marriage he worshipped at St. Paul's church, and although he was not a communicant until a very late period of his life, yet he rarely failed to attend at both the morning and the evening service. A few weeks ago, he was told that it would do him good, if he would go to his office, and mingle with the outer world again. He replied, pleasantly, that he would attend church at Easter. And it so happened, that just before the Easter light was dawning, his soul arose from its earthly enthrallments, and as this lower world of Christendom was singing, with glad accord, "The Lord is Arisen," there was doubtless revealed to his disburdened and informed spirit, the glories of a resurrection morning.

From the Troy Daily Times of March 29, 1880.

John Leland Thompson.

JOHN LELAND THOMPSON, senior member of the firm of John L. Thompson, Sons & Co., and one of the oldest and most prosperous merchants of this city, died at 11:23 o'clock on Saturday night, after an illness of nearly two years. On Saturday, July 20, 1878, he suffered a slight stroke of apoplexy, and on the following Monday, while at St. John's Church, attending the funeral of the late George M. Tibbits, he was again attacked with the same malady, from which, however, he rallied, but not sufficiently to enable a return to business cares and duties. His last illness, the beginning of which dates back several weeks, was of course superinduced by apoplexy, but resulted in general mental and physical prostration. For some days prior

to his death he was unable to articulate, and could only make the members of his family understand his wishes by means of signs and silent movements of the lips.

Mr. Thompson was born in Amenia, Dutchess County, December 1, 1797, and was consequently in the eighty-third year of his age. When a youth, his father removed to Poughkeepsie, where he owned about 300 acres of land in the vicinity of the site of Vassar College, and until he was twenty years old, —1817—the deceased continued to reside there. In 1817 the father lost all of his property by unfortunate endorsements, and the son, who had been reared in comparative luxury, was thrown upon his own resources. He decided to begin his business life in Troy, and coming to this city in the year above named, entered the drug store of the late Dr. Samuel Gale, then standing upon the site of the present store of John L. Thompson, Sons & Co. His industry and strict attention to business won for him the esteem of Dr. Gale, and in 1821 he was admitted to a partnership in the firm, the name of which was changed to Gale & Thompson. Dr. Gale had married a sister of his associate in business, and a few years later the enterprise passed entirely under the control of Mr. Thompson. About 1832, the old store becoming too small for the increasing trade, the present four story

brick edifice was erected. In 1841, David Cowee, who had been a clerk for Mr. Thompson a number of years, became his partner, and in 1855, John I. and William A. Thompson, sons of the deceased, also became partners, the firm name being then changed to John L. Thompson, Sons & Co., which it still remains, although J. F. Cowee, a son of David Cowee, united with the firm in 1869. For more than half a century Mr. Thompson was engaged in business in this city, and as a matter of course became largely identified with the mercantile interests of Troy.

His career was one of continued success. Careful in his investments, scrupulously honest in all things, and respecting his word as he honored his bond, fortune seldom frowned upon him or obscured the sky of his prosperity with even the smallest cloud. Mr. Thompson was the first merchant in his family, all the others having been farmers or professional men. Mrs. Thompson survives her husband, who leaves a family of eight children, namely: Mrs. Derick Lane, John I., William A., George S., Robert H., James L., the Rev. Walter, and E. Ray Thompson. The demise of the father is the first death that has occurred in this large family. A singular coincidence in connection with the life of the deceased is that it began in the very year—1797—in which Dr. Gale established the drug store on the site occupied by the building of

the present firm. When Mr. Thompson entered the old store as clerk, his father, who took leave of him at the street door, said to him, "My son, you may require a little money before you earn any; take this," handing him a silver dollar. That was all the money the young clerk possessed when he began life; but his energy and industry increased it a million fold. Politically Mr. Thompson was a democrat of the Jeffersonian class, although he never took very much interest in political affairs, and never aspired to hold office. Mr. Thompson was a constant attendant during the latter years of his life at St. Paul's church, and always contributed liberally to the cause of Christianity. He was an exemplary citizen, and it may be said of him that during his long and successful career no word of reproach was ever uttered against him. Quiet and unostentatious, entirely devoted to commercial affairs and to his family, seldom leaving the city except on business, and then returning as soon as possible, his life was largely passed amid the surroundings of his office and the attractions of a refined and cultivated home. He was a self-made man. He had, it is true, the advantages of early education, but when he made his first effort for himself he was almost penniless, a silver dollar comprising his worldly possessions. There is much in his life to commend; nothing to condemn. He leaves an untarnished name, and in his death Troy loses one of its most worthy citizens.

From the Troy Press of Monday, March 29, 1880.

John L. Thompson.

Died at the family residence in this city, Saturday, March 27th, at 11.23 P. M., JOHN LELAND THOMPSON, in the 83d year of his age.

JOHN L. THOMPSON was born December 1st, 1797, in Amenia, Dutchess County, N. Y. His ancestry is traced to Anthony Thompson, of Coventry, England, who arrived in Boston on board the ship Hector, in company with Governor Eaton and Rev. Mr. Davenport, June 26th, 1637. Anthony Thompson had two children. Then comes John Thompson, two children; Samuel Thompson, who married a daughter of Governor Bishop of Connecticut, eight children; Samuel Thompson, three children; Ezra Thompson, nine children; Ezra Thompson, Jr., nine children; John L. Thompson of Troy, who was married in August, 1829, to Mary P. Thompson of New London, Conn., and by whom he has had eight children.

The drug house in which Mr. Thompson was senior partner was started by Samuel Gale, the father of Mr. E. Thompson and John B. Gale, in 1797. In that year Mr. Gale opened an apothecary store in a frame building on the site of John L. Thompson, Sons & Co.'s present store. His trade was general retail, but occasionally he did a little in the jobbing line. The business increased with the growth of the city, and in 1817 John L. Thompson, Dr. Gale's brother-in-law, coming from Poughkeepsie, was received into the store as clerk. The great fire of 1820, which swept away all the buildings on the west side of First street, from the third house north of Congress street to the junction with River street, also all the buildings on both sides of River street nearly to Broadway, left Gale's store with no other damage than a scorching of the clapboards in the rear. Mr. Thompson became a partner in 1821, and the business was carried on for some time under the firm name of Gale & Thompson. In 1832 the old frame building wherein Dr. Gale founded the business was torn down, and the four-story structure No. 161 River street erected and occupied by Mr. Thompson. David Cowee, who came to this city from Westminster, Mass., was clerk in Mr. Thompson's store from 1835 to 1841, when he became a partner in the business, the firm being then styled John L. Thompson & Co. In 1855 John I. Thomp-

son and William A. Thompson, sons of the senior partner in the firm, were received as partners and the firm name changed to John L. Thompson, Sons & Co. J. F. Cowee, son of David Cowee, became a partner in 1869. The increase in business compelled the firm to add the buildings Nos. 159 and 163 River street, and at a later period required the erection of a large warehouse in the rear of the buildings. The house is one of the largest engaged in the drug trade between New York and Chicago. There are customers in the West also, but the firm has never taken any pains to extend the business in that direction. The trade is not exclusively in drugs, but includes many other articles. The house is represented by a London agent and in New York by a custom house broker. A large proportion of the goods are shipped from London and Liverpool to New York, where they are disposed of by being shipped to Troy, placed in the New York store, or assigned direct to customers.

Mr. Thompson held many positions of honor and responsibility. He was president of the Troy and Greenbush Railroad, governor of the Marshall Infirmary, manager of the Troy Savings Bank and director of the United National Bank. He never held a political office, though often urged to do so, but took a lively interest in political matters. The day of Mr. George M. Tibbits' funeral, July 22, 1878, he was

taken from St. John's church to his home, where he shortly afterwards suffered a paralytic stroke. He had a shock of a similar nature some ten years ago, from which he recovered.

From the last shock he never fully recovered, but lingered an invalid, confined to his house, with disease and old age sapping the foundations of life until at last the end came and death freed the spirit from its mortal tenement, and John L. Thompson is no more and naught remains but the memories of the kindly acts of his life. The children of John L. Thompson are John I. Thompson, William A. Thompson, Rev. Walter Thompson, George S. Thompson, Robert H. Thompson, James L. Thompson, E. Ray Thompson and Mrs. Derick Lane.

The funeral of Mr. Thompson will take place from St. Paul's church at 11 o'clock to-morrow morning. The family invite the merchants of the city to attend.

From the Troy Morning Whig of March 31, 1880.

The Funeral of John L. Thompson.

THE obsequies of John L. Thompson were held at St. Paul's church, in this city, yesterday morning, at eleven o'clock. The main floor of the edifice was filled with an audience representative of the intelligence, the mercantile ability, and the worth of Troy. Of the clergymen of the city and vicinity, scattered among the congregation, were to be seen the Rev. Peter Havermans, the Rev. George C. Baldwin, D. D., the Rev. Richard Temple, the Rev. Jacob A. Prime, the Rev. James Caird, and the Rev. Donald MacGregor. At the appointed hour, the clergy to whom was committed the charge of the burial office, together with the surpliced choristers, meeting the body at the church entrance, preceded it, while the Rev. Frank L. Norton read the solemn sentence beginning: "I am the resurrection and the life." The body, which had

been taken from the late residence of Mr. Thompson to the hearse, by his sons, was borne into the church by men who had been for a long time in his service. Then followed the relatives, some most intimate friends, and the employes of the deceased. The effective singing of the anthem was succeeded by the reading of the lesson by the Rev. Pelham Williams. Then was sung the sentence beginning, "I heard a voice," after which came the thoroughly suggestive hymn beginning :

"Weary of earth and laden with my sin."

The creed and prayers were read by the Rev. Francis Harison, D. D., and the benediction was pronounced by the Right Rev. William Croswell Doane, the bishop of this diocese. While the cortege was passing from the church, the choristers sang the hymn, beginning :

"Abide with me ; fast falls the eventide,"

the soothing creation of that genuine Christian lyrical poet, the Rev. H. F. Lyte. As the congregation left, the singing of Taber's hymn,

"O Paradise, O Paradise, who doth not crave for rest,"

ended the services at the church. The Rev. J. Ireland

Tucker, D. D., participated in the service, with the bishop and clergy above named. Some of the decorations of Easter still remained in the chancel, the suggestive emblems of the counterpart of the funeral occasion. The arrangements at the funeral were in the charge of G. Parish Ogden and H. C. Lockwood, who were aided by W. H. Metcalf and F. T. Buell. The remains were deposited in Oakwood cemetery.

1164609

Resolutions of Respect.

At a special meeting of the Governors of the Marshall Infirmary, held March 30, 1880, the President announced the death of John L. Thompson, a member of the Board, when the following memorandum was adopted and placed on the records of the Board:

John Leland Thompson, one of the Governors of the Marshall Infirmary, died in Troy, on Saturday, March 27, 1880, in the eighty-third year of his age. During a business career in this city, extending over a period of nearly sixty-three years, he maintained a character in which high integrity, sound judgment and practical common sense were so happily united, that his life as a merchant was marked, step by step, with good results, and was crowned at its close with deserved success.

As a citizen the prosperity and growth of this municipality were watched and aided by him in many ways, while in the more private walks of life he exemplified the gracious principles of religion and virtue.

To the welfare of the Marshall Infirmary he gave the influence of his own upright and sympathetic nature, and seconded the efforts of those who were connected with him in its government, to maintain its usefulness and prosperity.

As a mark of our respect for his memory, we will attend his funeral, and will cause a copy of this expression of our thoughts to be sent to his family.

R. H. WARD,

Secretary.

In Memoriam.

JOHN LELAND THOMPSON. Died Easter Eve, March 27, 1880.

His spirit passed from earth away
On the eve of glorious Easter Day,
Christ's resurrection morn.
And while for him ye truly weep,
Ye would not wake from blessed sleep
One who to God hath gone.

A sire revered — a husband loved —
In Friendship, true — in honor, proved —
By all who knew him best ;
A life unstained — a Christian death —
Love cannot twine a purer wreath
To lay upon his breast.

It was a blessed time to die !
With Heaven's Angel minstrelsy
To join in sweet accord !
To quit his prison-house of clay,
And with the dawning Easter Day
To greet the Risen Lord.

Easter, 1880.

ELOISE H. THATCHER.

Shipping and Commercial List, Tuesday, March 30, 1880.

Obituary.

The death of Mr. John L. Thompson, senior member of the firm of John L. Thompson, Sons & Co., wholesale druggists, of Troy, New York, and an old patron of the SHIPPING LIST, took place on the 27th inst. Deceased had attained to the age of eighty-three years, and was one of the oldest members of the drug trade in the State, or the United States, having been in business in the same location since June, 1817, during which period he had borne a high reputation for integrity and loyalty to the correct principles of everyday life.

April 1, 1880.

Messrs. J. L. THOMPSON, SONS & Co., }
Troy, N. Y. }

DEAR SIRs—By your letter of the 29th ult., we are informed of the death of your estimable senior, Mr. John L. Thompson.

While offering an expression of our sympathy for your own serious bereavement, we are impressed with the importance of this loss to the profession, of which he was, for so many years, a worthy and honored representative.

His own business circle cannot fail to miss the presence of one who possessed the confidence and regard of his fellows to an unusual degree, while the community at large will suffer from the absence of an exemplary and respected citizen.

With kind regard,

We remain, very truly yours,

CHAS. T. WHITE & Co.

287 Pearl Street, New York, April 3, 1880.

Messrs. JOHN L. THOMPSON, SONS & CO., }
Troy, N. Y. }

DEAR SIRs—We have just read, in the papers, a brief account of the life and death of your senior partner, and the founder of your house

Although his departure was, perhaps, long anticipated, it must bring its sorrow to his family and leave a gap in your community.

There is in his long life and good example, everything to cheer and animate those of us who remain.

Permit us to extend our sincere and heartfelt sympathy, and express the hope that we, who now occupy, as it were, the “front rank,” may leave the savor of as good a life behind *us*.

Yours, very respectfully,
ROBERT COLGATE & Co.

Boston, April 3, 1880.

GENTLEMEN—We are sorry to see that so good a man as Mr. Thompson has passed onward, yet he was ripe for the harvest and his good “past” is worthy the example of those who fill his place.

Respectfully,
CHENEY & MYRICK.

THE INVENTION OF AMERICAN GENRE

#836

